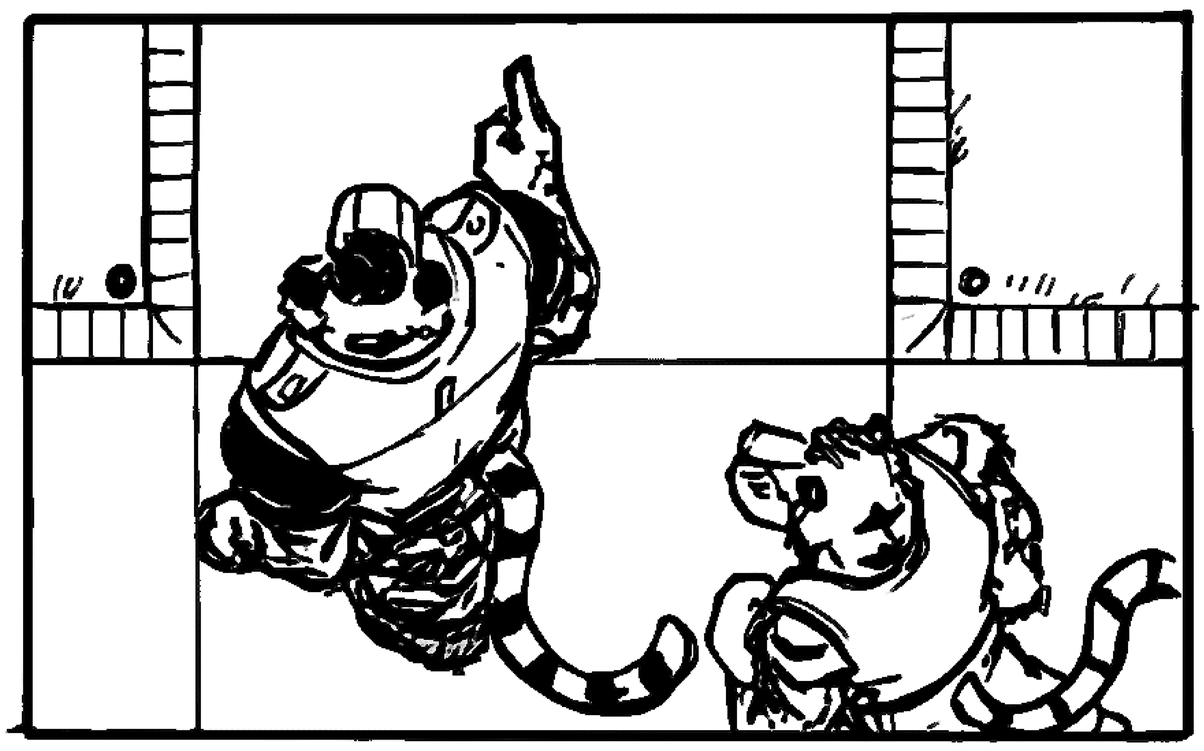
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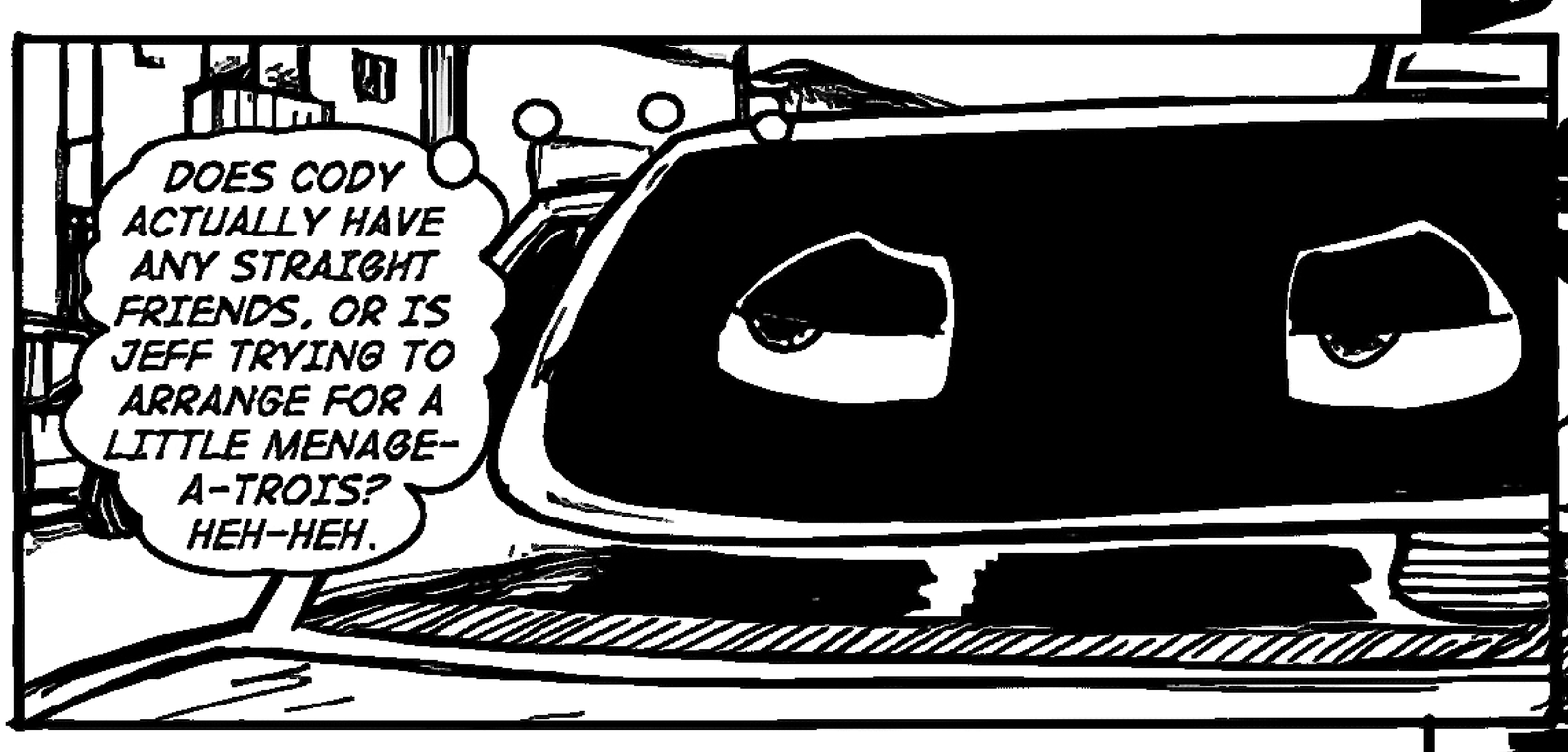
iSQ CHAPTER 7

ART & STORY BY VINCE SUZUKAWA









PLEASED TO MEETCHA.

LIKEWISE.

...JEFF, THIS IS TODD.

WHOA...IS... IS THAT...

A MASTERPIECE METALFORMERPP?

SURE IS!

KNOCK YOURSELF OUT!

WOW! CAN... MAY I--?

THAT'S THE BEST BUD YOU'VE KNOWN FOR YEARS AND YEARS AND ALL?

I DIDN'T KNOW HE'D BE THAT HOT!

SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL, YEAH. WHY?

TWOING

TWOING

I CAN'T BELIEVE NOBODY FIGURED OUT YOU WERE GAY WITH THAT HUNK AROUND. DIDN'T THEY CATCH YOU LOOKING?

YOU LEARN SELF-RESTRAINT OVER SEVEN YEARS. PLUS, HE DIDN'T ALWAYS LOOK LIKE THAT.

SO WERE YOU HOPING HE'D EVER GET CURIOUS AND "EXPERIMENT" WITH YOU?

WHY DO I KEEP GETTING THAT QUESTION?

WHY AREN'T YOU ANSWERING IT?

CHOMP

DID YOU GUYS SAY SOMETHING?

HUH? NOPE!

NOTHING IMPORTANT.

I'VE NEVER PLAYED ON A SCREEN THIS BIG.

IN YOUR DREAMS.

IS THAT GONNA BE YOUR EXCUSE WHY I'M KICKING YOUR TAIL?

SO...AREN'T YOU GONNA ASK HOW MY DATE WENT?

WHAT? RIGHT NOW? NO...

WHY NOT?

WELL...I WASN'T SURE IF TODD MINDED HEARING ALL THE, Y'KNOW...

DETAILS.

IT'S NOT LIKE HE'D HAVE THE NERVE TO GO ALL THE WAY ON THE ***VERY FIRST DATE*** THAT REALLY MATTERED TO HIM.

UM... ACTUALLY...

DETAILS? TUH! GET REAL!

35%

17%

24%

HORMONES BUILD UP OVER TIME AND...WELL...

LA LA LA! I'M NOT LISTENING! LA LA LA!

KIDDING! KIDDING!

OKAY, ONE MORE...

HRRNGCK!

MEANWHILE....

THAT'S ALL YOU, DUDE.

YA GOT IT, YA GOT IT...

THERE!

KLANK

OH, DOUBIE, YOU'RE GONNA KILL YOURSELF ONE OF THESE DAYS.

NOT WITH ME AROUND!

AW, SIS, YOU DON'T GET HURT IF YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING...

SAYS THE GUY CHASING OUR PSYCHO BOUNCER.

OOH, ZING. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SAVING UP THAT ONE?

ALL MORNING.

I DUNNO, CODY SEEMED NICE ENOUGH YESTERDAY.

I'M SURE HE DID, DOUGIE. BUT NOBODY SAYS "BY THE WAY, I'M AN AXE MURDERER" ON THE FIRST DATE.

WELL, THERE WAS THIS ONE GUY WHO TOLD ME RIGHT OFF THE BAT--

YES, TIM. THANK YOU, TIM.

LOOK, I JUST THINK YOU SHOULD HOLD OFF UNTIL YOU KNOW HIM BETTER.

BUT GOING OUT *IS* A WAY TO GET TO KNOW HIM BETTER.

OH, SURE...

IF YOU'RE NOT CHEERFULLY IGNORING ALL THE WARNING SIGNS, LIKE WHEN--

SAM, PLEASE... DON'T GO THERE. I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON, HONESTLY.

OKAY, I'M SORRY... *SIGH.* JUST...TELL ME, WHAT MAKES YOU THINK CODY WILL BE ANY DIFFERENT?

WELL...HEE HEE, YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE THIS, IT'S SO CUTE! WHEN HE SHOWED UP AT THE DOOR, HE--

ANYWAY, I DIDN'T WANT TO SHOW UP EMPTY-HANDED, SO I MADE ONE STOP ON THE WAY THERE... I HOPE IT MADE A GOOD IMPRESSION.

211 B

I'VE HEARD REALLY EXPENSIVE OR DARK AND INTIMATE RESTAURANTS COULD MEAN YOU'VE GOT..."EXPECTATIONS."

SPECIALS!

SO, I OPTED FOR THE SAFE ROUTE...

OLIVE TREE

THE ONLY HITCH WAS THAT OUR WAITER SEEMED A BIT...COOLISH. I WONDER IF HE SUSPECTED.

I TRIED NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT, THOUGH.

OLIVE TREE

WAIT, WAIT, YOU WENT OUT FOR ITALIAN?

WHY NOT, IT'S A SAFE CHOICE. I'VE NEVER KNOWN ANYONE TO REFUSE ITALIAN.

COME ON... GARLIC BREATH, PASTA WHIPLASH, TOMATO STAINS... IF MAKING FIRST IMPRESSIONS? BAD IDEA!

HEY, IT COULD BE WORSE...I TOOK ONE FIRST DATE FOR MEXICAN.

LET'S JUST SAY I LATER GOT WIND OF THE FACT THAT IT DIDN'T GO OVER SO WELL WITH HIM...

HA! OKAY, ITALIAN'S GOT NOTHING ON THAT...

I MEAN, SURE, IT'S A BIT CORNY, LIKE HE'S SEEN TOO MANY MOVIES OR SOMETHING... BUT IT'S STILL A VERY SWEET GESTURE...

IN FACT, THE WHOLE NIGHT, HE WANTED TO BE THE PERFECT GENTLEMAN. EVEN IF HE WAS A LITTLE CLUMSY AT IT, HE REALLY TRIED HARD.

SO WE TALKED OVER LUNCH...ALTHOUGH, HE'D OFTEN HUSH UP ANY TIME SOMEONE WALKED BY. I THINK HE'S NOT USED TO DATING A MALE IN PUBLIC.

HE SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING HIS CLASSES. FUNNY THING IS, EVIDENTLY HE'S A FRESHMAN...I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE LOOKED LIKE A SENIOR....

THERE'S DEFINITELY ONE HOBBY WE HAVE IN COMMON. IT'D BE A GREAT WAY TO SPEND TIME TOGETHER.

HEH, NO, I DIDN'T FORGET ABOUT YOU, TIM.

TURNS OUT HE DID HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL. I ASKED IF HE WAS HERE ON A SCHOLARSHIP, BUT HE SAID HE NEVER CONSIDERED IT A VIABLE CAREER.

FROST 31

OH, FOR HEAVEN'S--OPEN YOUR EYES, DOUG!

KARATE. FOOTBALL. BODYBUILDING. AND NOW A BOUNCER. ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY YOU'RE NOT SEEING A RECURRING PATTERN HERE? THAT THERE'S NOT HIGH POTENTIAL FOR BEING OVERLY AGGRESSIVE?

THIS IS THE TYPE OF GUY THAT'LL WALK ALL OVER YOU.

NOW, SAM.

THERE'S HEALTH, DEFENSE, HONOR, DISCIPLINE, PROTECTIVENESS... OR WHO KNOWS WHAT OTHER REASONS HE MAY BE INTO ANY OF THOSE.

MAYBE HE WANTS TO BE A POLICEMAN SOMEDAY. OR A BODYGUARD. LET'S GIVE MR. ROSE-BEARER THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT, HMM?

MM.

SO I ASKED WHAT ELSE HE LIKES TO DO ON THE SIDE. ONE PASSION TAKES UP MOST OF HIS TIME...

16

AND YOU CAN GUESS WHAT TAKES UP THE REST. WE AGREED I SHOULD JOIN HIM SOMETIME.

HE DOESN'T REALLY HAVE MUCH TIME FOR OTHER HOBBIES... I FOUND OUT HE HAS A SECOND JOB...

SEEMED... STRANGE, ACTUALLY.

WHY IS A SMART GUY LIKE HIM DOING TWO MANUAL LABOR JOBS?

NOT MY PLACE TO ASK, THOUGH.

DESSERT WAS GREAT, BUT MAN, I COULD NOT GET HIM TO GIVE AN OPINION ON CHOOSING ONE! I GUESS IT'S KINDA NICE WHEN SOMEONE'S SO... AGREEABLE.

I KNOW WE'D NEVER INDICATED IF IT WAS GONNA BE DUTCH OR NOT, BUT I INSISTED IT WAS MY TREAT. I'M GLAD HE DIDN'T FIGHT ME OVER IT, I HAD NO ENERGY LEFT AFTER DESSERT, HEH.

TICKETS WERE ON ME, TOO. JUST IN TIME FOR THE 1PM SHOWING OF "FUNNY MOVIE 5: OH CRAP, NOT AGAIN."

OVIE 5 ..... 100 305
HAND 1230 300
TE 110 330
TH YOU 1245 255

WHAT? WHY DIDN'T YOU SEE "ONE OF HEARTS"? IT JUST CAME OUT AND IT'S A PERFECT DATE MOVIE!

HUH? I'M NOT SEEING NO CHICK FLICK!

YOU'RE GAY! IT'S ALLOWED! ENCOURAGED, EVEN!

BUT...BUT HE AND I EVEN TALKED ABOUT LIKING A MAN WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR...?

TOUGH! REMEMBER THE RULE? "NO MUSHY, NO TOUCHY!"

AWK! OKAY, OKAY!

BOP

I THINK HE'S THE SORT WHO REFUSES TO TAKE THE LAST BITE. I HAD TO MAKE HIM! BUT HE'S ADORABLE WHEN FLUSTERED.

I BELIEVE HE LEFT A PRETTY DECENT TIP. THE SERVICE WAS RATHER BLAH; I KINDA WISH THE GUY GOT WHAT HE DESERVED..BUT IT'S GOOD HE DIDN'T WANT TO LOOK LIKE A CHEAPSKATE.

THEN WE WENT TO SEE FUNNY MOVIE 5. YES, I'D SEEN IT, BUT HE SEEMED TO WANNA GO, SO I SAID NOTHING. I WAS OKAY SITTING THROUGH IT AGAIN.

NOW PLAYIN
ONE OF HEART
DEAL.

HEH...GOTTA ADMIT, I DID PUT THE ARMREST DOWN, OUT OF HABIT. BIG MISTAKE, I KNOW, I KNOW...

BUT UNLIKE THE RESTAURANT, THE THEATER WAS NEARLY EMPTY...AND I'D PURPOSELY PICKED AN OUT-OF-THE-WAY SEAT...AND IT WAS DARK...

SO I STARTED TO FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE...

WITH... EVERYTHING.

YANNO, SOUNDS LIKE HE'S TAKING THE "MAN'S" ROLE HERE...PAYING FOR EVERYING, PICKING WHAT YOU DO, GETTING YOUR CHAIR FOR YOU. I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU LIKE THAT.

HUH, INTERESTING POINT.

THINK HE'LL EXPECT TO PAY ALL THE TIME?

I WON'T LET HIM, SIS...

REGARDLESS, GOOD CALL! HE SEEMS NEW TO DATING GUYS, SO YOU'RE HELPING HIM FEEL MORE... TRADITIONAL.

I NOTICED DURING THE PREVIEWS, A COUPLE TIMES HE COMMENTED "HEY, THAT LOOKS KINDA COOL, MAYBE WE CAN SEE THAT SOMETIME." WE. GOOD SIGN, RIGHT?

BUT EVEN THEN, HE WAS STILL BEING COY ABOUT INITIATING CONTACT. I TRIED MAKING A FEW SUBTLE NUDGES.

NO LUCK.

THEN I REMEMBERED HIS WEAKNESS, AND TRIED A LESS SUBTLE ONE.

THAT WORKED.

I MAY RENT THAT MOVIE LATER, CUZ I DON'T REMEMBER THE ENDING...

EXPECTANT, EH? PAUSING BY THE DOOR, GIVING YOU THE EYE?

SO DID YOU KISS HIM?

ARE YOU KIDDING? IN PUBLIC? IN BROAD DAYLIGHT? I MEAN, I TOTALLY ***WANTED*** TO, BUT I JUST COULDN'T!

NOT SURPRISINGLY, HE LET GO WHEN THE MOVIE ENDED AND WE WENT OUTSIDE. AH WELL.

DEC 1

BOOKS

HE SEEMED TO BE IN NO HURRY TO GET RID OF ME... WE TOOK OUR TIME WALKING BACK TO HIS APARTMENT...

2773

LINGERING.

D'OH! HE FUMBLES! HE DROPS THE BALL! NO POINT FOR FROST!

HEH, GIVE HIM A BREAK... MAYBE NEXT TIME IT'LL BE NIGHT.

YEAH, I COULD TELL THE MOMENT WAS PAST. SO I TRIED TO GLOSS OVER IT QUICKLY...

I THANKED HIM FOR A GREAT TIME. HE SAID HE'D HAD FUN TOO...

AND THEN I FROZE. HE LOOKED SO... EXPECTANT.

211

I ASKED IF HE HAD ANY PLANS ON OUR NEXT NIGHT OFF. HE SAID NO!

SO HE WONDERED IF I KINDA SORTA WOULDN'T MIND SEEING HIM AGAIN THEN. HEE HEE, HE'S SO CUTE.

I SAID I'D REALLY LIKE IT IF HE'D GO CLUBBING WITH ME.

CAN'T DENY IT CAUGHT ME A LITTLE OFF GUARD. NOT MY FIRST CHOICE. BUT HE'S WORTH IT. I SAID THAT'D BE COOL.

PLUS I SAID I COULD INTRODUCE HIM TO SOME OF MY FRIENDS.

SO THAT SHOULD BE FUN. AND WITH THAT, WE FINALLY MANAGED TO WRAP UP.

211

WE SAID OUR GOODBYES. OR MORE LIKE OUR SEE-YOU-AT-WORK-IN-HALF-AN-HOUR'S.

CLUBBING, HUH? YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE HIM TO KYELL'S, AREN'T YOU?

DID YOU TELL HIM IT'S A GAY CLUB?

SURE, WHERE ELSE?

OF COURSE! WHY?

IS THAT REALLY A GOOD PLACE TO DRAG SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T SEEM TO WANNA ADMIT THEY LIKE GUYS?

WELL...

ACTUALLY, I BET HE'LL LIKE IT BETTER!

IF HE'S SURROUNDED BY LOTSA OTHER GAY GUYS, HE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BEING JUDGED...

COOL, I GET TO MEET HIM!

SURROUNDED BY...HEY, I THINK I SEE WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.

WHY ELSE WOULD YOU GO TO KYELL'S? IT'S A TOTAL MEAT MARKET.

ER... AND?

YOU WANNA SEE HOW HE REACTS TO TEMPTATION, CUZ YOU'RE NOT SURE IF YOU CAN TRUST HIM YET. IS THAT IT?

MMMAYBE. IT SOUNDS SO UNDERHANDED WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...

HMPH! IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO LOOK FOR WARNING SIGNS, BUT NOT ME?

YOU'RE RIGHT, I'M SORRY.

AT LEAST I'M POSITIVE HE'S NOT DANGEROUS. REALLY I AM. IT'S... IT'S JUST...

OKAY, I KNOW YOU HAVE YOUR PRIORITIES.

I'M ONLY BEING BITCHY CUZ I CARE.

THANKS, SIS.

SEEYA AT WORK TONIGHT.

WHAT?! ONE NIGHT OF CLUBBING WON'T KILL ME.

BUT YOU HATE DANCING!

EH, I KNOW; SO I WON'T. I'LL DRINK, I'LL MINGLE, I'LL CHAT, WHATEVER ELSE. I'LL LIVE.

YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

IT MAY NOT SEEM LIKE IT, BUT IT'S A BIT OF A TEST. HE WANTS TO SEE IF YOU KNOW HOW TO HAVE FUN!

IT'LL PRETTY MUCH BE GAME OVER IF HE INVITES YOU TO SHAKE YOUR TAIL AND YOU REFUSE...AND WHAT IF HE LIKES GOING REGULARLY?

AW, MAN. YOU MEAN I'M SCREWED?

WHY DON'T YOU FIND SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T REALLY INVOLVE DANCING...

LIKE SPINNING POI, MAYBE?

HE TRIED THAT ONCE...

AND?

AAAAND I COULDN'T QUITE SWING IT.

AND I DON'T DANCE EITHER, THAT'S WHY I DO POI. MAYBE YOU COULD TEACH HIM, JEFF?

ME? HEH! NO WAY, I'VE GOT TWO LEFT HOOVES...

KNOW ANYONE ELSE WHO COULD SHOW YOU SOME MOVES?

. . .

BUT, YA HAITE DANCIN', MAITE.

"HATE" IS SUCH A STRONG WORD...

BESIDES, BORIS REALLY WANTS TO HIT THEIR HAPPY HOUR. WE HEAR THE FOOD IS INCREDIBLE.

REALLY? WHICH CLUB IS IT?

UM, I FORGET THE NAME. BORIS KNOWS.

AI SEE, AND YA WANNA BE PREPARED IN CASE A BABE ASKS YA T'DANCE, RAIGHT?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

OKAY, AI'D BE HAPPEH TO HELP! STEP NUMBAH ONE, THEN:

AI NEED T' SAMPLE SUMMA YER FAVORITE MUSIC, SO AI KNOW WOT KAINDA RHYTHM YER ACCUSTOMED TO.

OKAY.

CRAIKEY. HAURD ROCK FAN, EH?

YEAH.

RAIGHT THEN, STEP NUMBAH TWO: SHOW ME WOT YA GOT!

SAY WHAT?!

YOU 'EARD ME. START DANCIN'!

THIS AIN'T NO FREESHOW! AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO SHOW ME WHAT TO DO, MR. CHOREOGRAPHER?

'EY NOW, CHOREOGRAPHY NEEDS A GOAL...A MOOD, A STOREH, A THEME. BUT IF AI'M NOT GONNA BE THERE, 'OW DO AI KNOW WOT AI'M SHOWIN' YA IS GONNA WORK?

THE BEST AI CAN DO IS COACH YA 'OW TO *FEEL* THE DANCE.

HOW VERY ZEN.

AI'M SERIOUS. AI CAN SHOW YOU SOME MOVES, BUT ONLY YOU CAN MAKE IT DANCING. IF YOU JUST BLAINDLY MIMIC WOTEVAH AI DO, YOU'LL LOOK SILLEH.

FER ONE THING, YER TALLEH, HEAVIEH, BULKIEH, AND SLOWAH...YA GOTTA BE MOAH AWARE OF 'OW MUCH SPAICE YA NEED ON A CROWDED FLOOR.

NO DANCE FITS EVERY TYPE O' MUSIC.

MOST IMPOHTANTLY, YA WANNA MESH WITH YER PARTNAH.

WILL YA KNOW 'OW TO ADAPT TO ANY PLAYLIST?

DANCE TOGETHAH!

AI GUESS SLOW DANCES ARE UNIVEHSAL ENOUGH T' LEARN...

YEAH, THAT'D BE REALLY--

OFF

HI

BUT, AI'VE NOTICED 'OW MUCH YA FREAK OUT WHEN TOUCHED, SO NO WORRIES...AI WON'T PUT YA THROUGH THAUT.

--AWKWARD, SO...YEAH, GOOD IDEA TO SKIP IT...

C'MON, MAITE.

SHAKE THAT TAIL!

ERM... NOW?

WELL, WOTCHA WAITIN' FOR?

OKAY. UM...ONE AND TWO AND..

HANG ON, LEMME TRY THAT AGAIN...

I...UH...

UH... CAN WE TRY LATER?

I THINK AN OLD FOOTBALL INJURY'S ACTIN' UP...

AW, PITY. WELL, WHENEVAH YER READY, SAY THE WORD.

ALRIGHT, THANKS ANYWAY.

MAYBE THE CLUB'LL BURN DOWN BEFORE THEN. YEAH...

. . .

iSO CHAPTER 8

SO I THINK I CAN DANCE

HEY.

THERE YOU ARE! HOWZIT GOING?

I DON'T THINK YOU'VE EVER BEEN FORMALLY INTRODUCED. CODY, THIS IS DAVE. DAVE HERE IS THA MAN! I BELIEVE HE'S GOT WHAT YOU CAME HERE FOR?

HI DIDELY HO, NEIGHBORINO!

HEH, NOW THAT YOU FINALLY KNOW MY NAME, I GET TO RE-LEARN YOURS, "DAKOTA"...

DMV CALIFORNIA DMV

Dakota Holloway

DAMN, IT LOOKS JUST LIKE THE REAL THING! HOW MUCH DO I OWE YA?

EH, DON'T WORRY 'BOUT IT.

JUST RETURNIN' THE FAVOR FOR LETTING US INTO THE HANGOUT ALL THE TIME.

COOL, THANKS!

COME TO THINK OF IT... THIS IS YOUR FIRST FAKE I.D. EVER, ISN'T IT?

YEAH... I GUESS IT IS. WHY?

SNIFFLE MY WIDDLE CODY IZ ALL GWOWN UP NOW!

OOOF! GOOD THING *ONE* OF US IS.

KYELL'S

HEY THERE!

YOU MUST BE CODY! NICE TO MEETCHA!

OAH!

SORRY 'BOUT THE RIBS, I KINDA GOT CARRIED AWAY.

MAKES TWO OF US. ER...AND YOU ARE...?

OH! TIM LONGORIA, DOUG'S BEST BUD, ROOMIE AND CO-WORKER! PUT 'ER THERE!

P-L-L-LEASURE!

YEAH, DOUG'S, UH, IN THE LITTLE COUGAR'S ROOM, SO HE ASKED ME TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR YA.

HEH! WAS I HARD TO SPOT?

NAH, YER JUST LIKE HE DESCRIBED; BUFF, TOUGH, AND FLUFFY!

...

I'M NOT...*THAT* FLUFFY.

AW, YOU'RE VERY FLUFFY!

OKAY, MAYBE NOT QUITE AS FLUFFY AS, OH, THAT GUY OVER THERE, BUT--

WAITASEC... HE LOOKS FAMILIAR...

YEAH, THAT'S IT..I THINK HE'S IN MY ENGLISH 25 CLASS!

C'MON BACK, YOU CAN MEET THE REST OF THE CREW!

MAN, I HOPE HE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME...

FIRST UP, THOSE HOPELESS SNUGGLE BUNS ARE TREVOR AND ROBBIE.

YOU MIGHT'VE SEEN 'EM NEAR CAMPUS... TREVOR RUNS THE USED BOOK MART, AND ROBBIE'S A PERSONAL TRAINER AT THE GYM.

HEY.

SUP.

YEP, DEFINITELY A TRAINER'S GRIP THERE, ROBBIE.

ME? OH, GOODNESS GRACIOUS NO, HON, I'M TREVOR!

THOUGH I SUPPOSE I KEEP MY GIRLISH FIGURE BY TOSSING BOOKS AROUND ALL DAY.

I SEE.

KRAK

YOU SAYING I DON'T LOOK BIG ENOUGH TO BE A TRAINER?

NO NO, NOT AT ALL, I JUST...

AW, I'M JUST MESSIN' WITH YA.

'SIDES, IT'S ALL GOOD; SHORTER LEGS HAVE BETTER LEVERAGE...

CASE IN POINT.

YOUR RIBS RECOVERED 'NUFF FOR ANOTHER LIFT?

YA SURE?

NO.

QUITE.

IN ALL FAIRNESS, I MOSTLY DO CARDIO CLIENTS. I'M ACTUALLY VERY POPULAR WITH THE LADIES.

LUCKY YOU.

OFTEN TIMES A LOT TOUGHER AND LESS WHINY, AND... UM...

HEY, DON'T KNOCK IT, WOMEN ARE MUCH EASIER TO WORK WITH!

BETTER HYGEINE, MORE SOCIABLE, LESS BACKTALK...

AAAND NOT TO MENTION I ALREADY HAVE ALL THE MAN I NEED.

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT.

OH, YOU TWO, GET A ROOM!

HEH, AND THIS IS IRENE, AKA DUSTY.

HI. CAN I AVOID ANOTHER JOB FAUX PAS HERE?

HELLO, HELLO!

WELL, BABYSITTING DOUG AND TIMMY SEEMS LIKE MY FULL TIME JOB SOMETIMES.

"BABYSITTING?"

YEP! I'M THEIR OTHER ROOMIE.

THAAAANK YOU AUNTY IRENE!

ANOTHER ROOMMATE?

AW, SO THAT MEANS...

ANYWAY, I'M REALLY A--
I WANT SOME ICE CREAM!
NOT NOW, DEAR!
CANYA READ ME A BEDTIME STORY?
UM... LATER.
OKIE, LADY. UM... CHECK MY CLOSET FOR MONSTERS, THEN?
TIM, EVEN YOUR MONSTERS ARE OUT OF THE CLOSET.
SOMEONE'S ASKING FOR A SPANKING.
CAN I HELP?
ARE WE THERE YET?
ARE WE THERE YET?
ARE WE THERE YET?
I SEE YOU BOYS WANT TO TAKE YOUR RITALIN NON-ORALLY AGAIN.
AHEH. UH, INSIDE NURSE RATCHED JOKE.
CUZ I'M A NURSE. WHICH...I DIDN'T SAY YET, DID I?
AWKWARD OSTRICH.
HEY, CODY! I SEE YOU'VE MET THE CREW...
YES. YES I HAVE.
ARE YOU CLOWNS MESSIN' WITH HIS MIND?
WHY DO I EVEN ASK?
UM, I THINK I NEED A DRINK. CAN I GET ANYONE ANYTHING?
I'M GOOD.
NO, THANKS.
GO FOR IT, SUGAR.
MY MY, HE'S QUITE A BIG ONE, ISN'T HE?
WELL OF COURSE HE IS! YOU'RE SO PREDICTIBLE, DOUGIE.
OH, YOU TWO...

WHAT CAN I GETCHA?
JUST A COKE, PLEASE.
HERE YA GO!
THANKS.
ER...SO HOW MUCH IS IT?
EH?
WAIT...YOU MEAN...YOU DON'T WORK HERE?
ME? NO...
OH! SORRY...
HEH-HEH, I THOUGHT THEY'D HIRED A NEW BOUNCER.
GOTTA ADMIT YOU LOOK THE PART.
UH, YEAH, I GET THAT A LOT.
HEH, DID YOU EVER TRY MOOCHING FREE DRINKS FROM OTHER BARS THAT WAY?
HA! NOPE.
ANYWAY, SO REALLY, WHAT DO I OWE YA?
EH, YOU'RE HONEST AND YOU'RE NEW HERE...THAT ONE'S ON ME.
COOL, THANKS!
I WAGER THAT MEANS YOU'RE NOT YET FAMILIAR WITH WHICH BOOTHS OFFER THE MOST PRIVACY.
WANT ME TO SHOW YOU LATER?
!
SPEAKING OF BEING NEW HERE...
SQUIRT

VOLLE © KYELL GOLD

UH, MAYBE SOMEOTHERTIME THANKSFORTHEDRINK SEEYALATER--

CATS!

YEOWCH!

WHOA, SORRY!

S'OKAY.

UH-OH, IT'S HIM!

OH, IT'S YOU!

I THOUGHT I RECOGNIZED YOU. YOU'RE CODY?

ER... YEAH... NORM...? NICK...?

NATE.

NATE! YEAH. HISTORY 25, RIGHT?

YUP! YOU'RE ALWAYS SITTIN' WAY IN THE BACK. ALMOST BUT NOT QUITE IN THE CORNER, CUZ YOU KNOW THE PROF PURPOSELY CALLS ON FOLKS WHO TRY TO BE TOO INCONSPICUOUS.

WOW. HOW'D YOU NOTICE?

DUDE. I'M IN A GAY BAR; YOU'RE A BIG SLAB OF BEEF. DO THE MATH.

OH. HEH. GUESS I WAS STILL CONCENTRATING ON HISTORY.

ANYWAY, I'M HERE WITH... MY...UM...FRIEND, SO I--

OH?

NO WORRIES, I SAW YOU WITH 'EM. I'VE JUST BEEN WANTING TO TALK TO YA FOR SOME TIME.

WELL, STOP ME IF I'M WRONG, BUT YOU DIDN'T LOOK LIKE YOU'D BE A HISTORY MAJOR.

THAT'S RIGHT.

SO I BET YOU READ THE CLASS DESCRIPTION IN THE MANUAL, SIGNED UP TO KILL THAT LAME HISTORY REQUIREMENT--THINKING YOU'D BREEZE THROUGH IT NO PROBLEM--ONLY TO FIND OUT WHAT A DRAG IT IS?

TWO FOR TWO.

THING IS, WE'RE NOT ALONE... THERE'S A HALF-DOZEN OF US WHO'VE BEEN GOING BONKERS THERE, BUT WE'VE FOUND A SOLUTION.

AFTER EACH SESSION, WE MEET UP AT ONE OF OUR DORMS. PROOFREAD PAPERS, COMPARE NOTES, DECIPHER THE PROF'S RAMBLINGS, HAVE PIZZA. IT'S THE ONLY THING KEEPING US SANE.

AND I FIGURE THE MORE THE MERRIER, SO...

SURE, COUNT ME IN! THANKS!

COOL!

HEY, WHAT'S YOUR PHONE NUMBER?

LEMME GET YOURS TOO...

WHO'S YOUR FRIEND THERE?

HE'S ACTUALLY IN MY HISTORY CLASS. WHAT ARE THE CHANCES?

AH! YOU COULD'VE INVITED HIM TO DANCE WITH US.

OH...WE'RE GONNA DANCE NOW, HUH?

WHATCHA WAITING FOR?

UM...LEMME FINISH MY DRINK FIRST.

YOU ALL GO ON AHEAD.

NAH, IT'S ONLY ONE DRINK...

YOU SURE? I CAN WAIT FOR--

ALRIGHTY.

YANNO, HON...

...IF YOU NURSE THAT DRINK ANY LONGER, YOU'LL GROW BREASTS.

MMRPH.

STALLING, HUH? YOU NERVOUS?

FIRST TIME?

ME? I...WELL... ER...UH... MAYBE?

NOPE, I'VE BEEN NERVOUS BEFORE.

HAHA!

TOUCHE. DOUG ALWAYS DID LIKE A GUY WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR...

I'VE HEARD.

AND WHAT MADE YOU THINK IT'S MY FIRST TIME HERE?

WELL, MOST REGULARS DON'T PUT SO MUCH EFFORT INTO LOOKING SO...

UNAPPROACHABLE?

OF COURSE, I'M HERE TO SEE DOUG. I DON'T *WANT* TO BE APPROACHED BY OTHER GUYS.

IT'S STILL A SOCIAL PLACE. YOU CAN MEET NEW CASUAL FRIENDS TOO, LIKE YER FLUFFY SNOWMEOW BUD THERE.

IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT BEING RANDOMLY HIT ON...

MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY DANCIN' NICE AND CLOSE TO SOMEONE ALL NIGHT. WORKS FOR ME.

SPEAKING OF WHICH, MY HONEYBUNNY AWAITS.

SEE YOU OUT THERE SOON, MKAY?

BUMP

BELCH o

S'CUSE ME.

SIGH. HERE GOES NOTHING.

THIS WOULD BE SO MUCH EASIER IF THE MUSIC WAS ACTUALLY RECOGNIZEABLE.

I WONDER IF THEY TAKE REQUESTS.

S'CUSE ME.

I MEAN, WHO LISTENS TO THIS JUNK?

Lucas Llonstu
"Diva in a Blue Dress"
C.J. Pabey Records

AND WHO WANTS TO WATCH ENDLESS VIDEOS OF CURVY WOMEN SHAKING THEIR ASSES?

SPEAKING OF WHICH...SHOOT, WHAT WAS JAKE'S ADVICE ABOUT NOT DANCING LIKE A GIRL?

I COULDN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF IF I LOOKED FLAMEY.

PARDON.

OH YEAH...THE HIPS. BUT...TREVOR'S THE ONE WHO'S GOT THAT DOWN RIGHT, WHILE TIM'S JUST KINDA...YIKES.

GUESS IT DOESN'T HELP MUCH.

AND IT IS PRETTY DARK IN HERE.

MAYBE NOBODY CAN REALLY SEE ME.

COMIN' THRU.

IT'S..ALMOST LIKE YOU HAVE TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR PARTNER BY TOUCH...

HEH, OR IS THAT THE POINT?

IT'S JUST TOO BAD I HAVE NO FRICKIN' RHYTHM

HM...

ICHI.

NI.

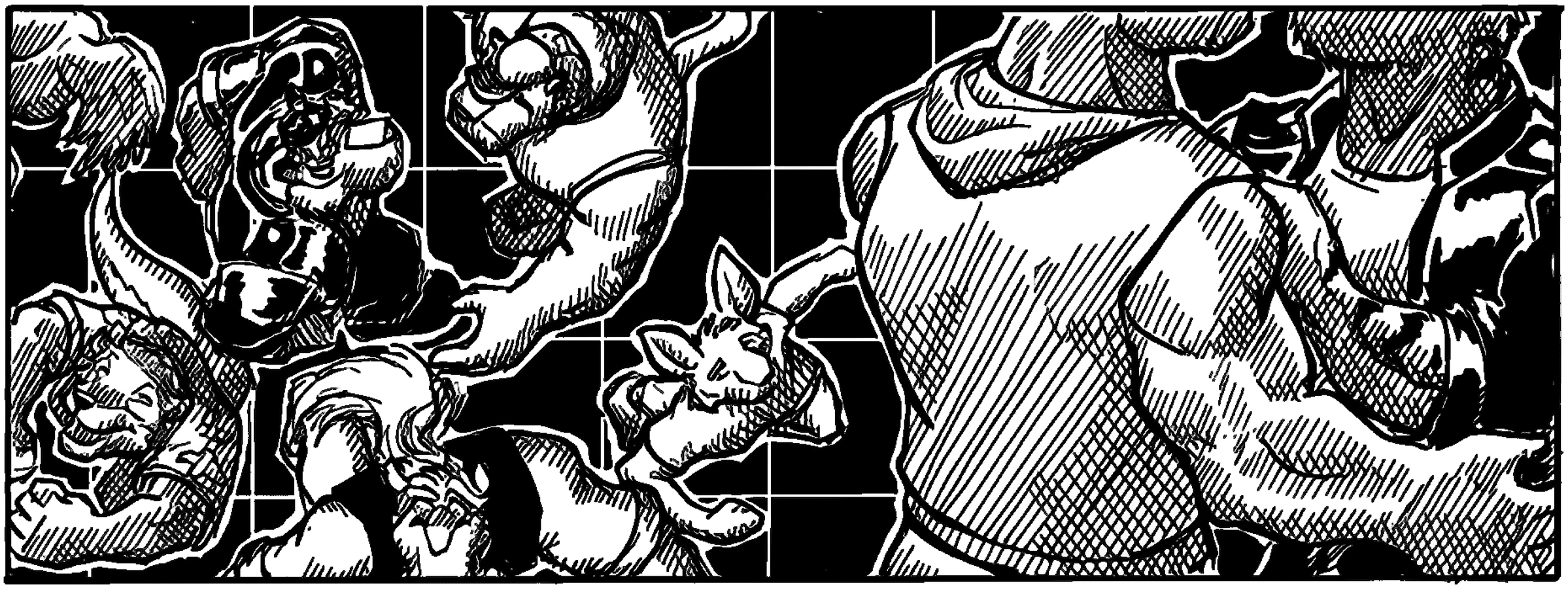
KI-YA!

SAN.

SHI.

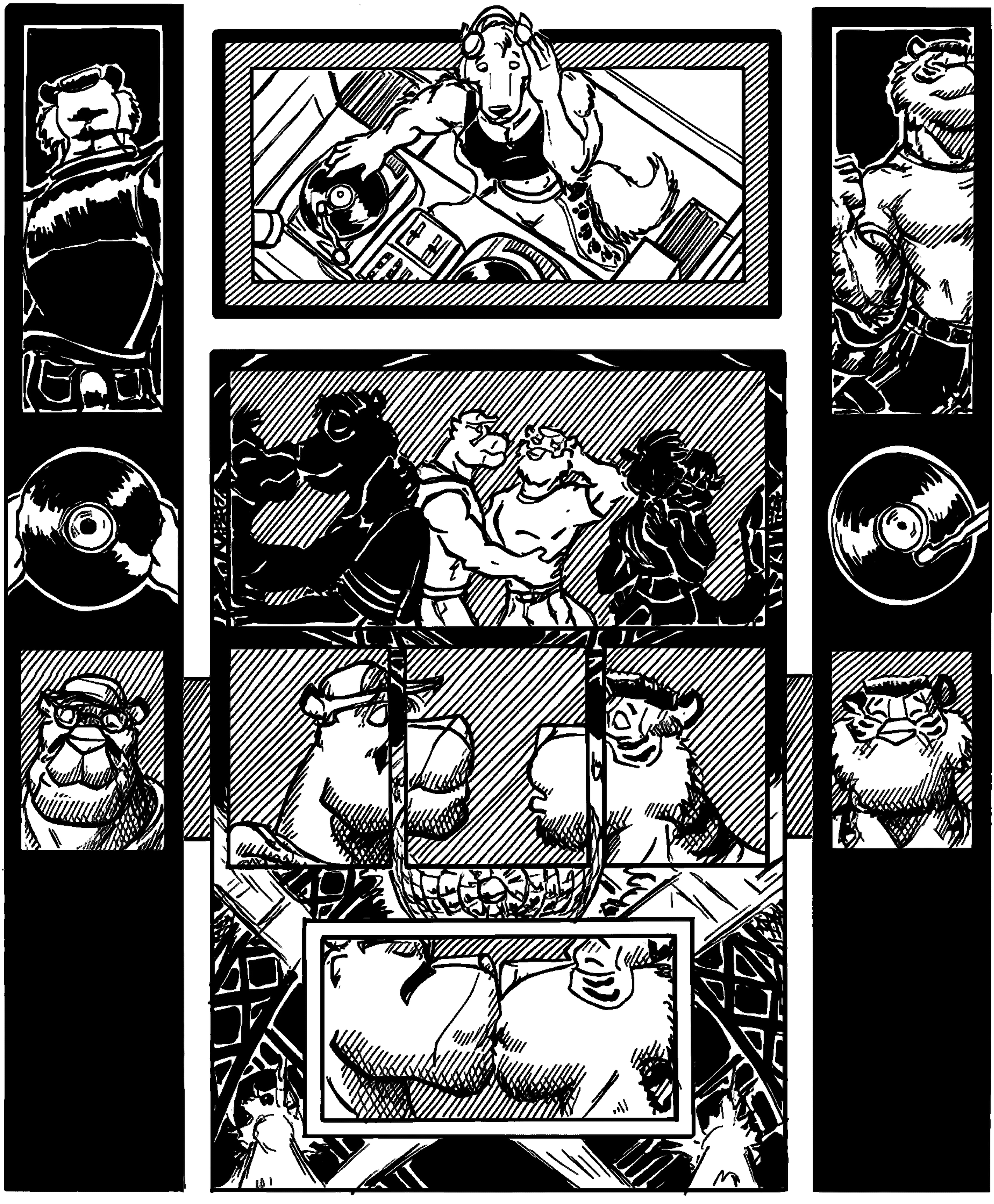
BUT MAYBE I CAN FAKE IT...











BACK AT RICHTER HALL

'AD A GOOD TAIME AT TH' CLUB, AI SEE.

MM-HMM.

MM-HMM.

WE'RE WATCHIN' MOVIES IN TH' LOUNGE IF YA WANNA JOIN US, CODY.

OR ARE YA HEADIN' FOR BED?

MM-HMM.

RAIGHT, THEN. G'NAIGHT.

MM-HMM.

HERE Y'ARE, MAITE!

THIS JAMES BOND MOVIE MARATHAUN WAS A GREAT AIDEA, BORIS. THANKS FER INVAITIN' US!

MM-HMM!

THE NEXT DAY...

SO, WHAT WOULD YA LIKE?

OH, JUST A TRIM--

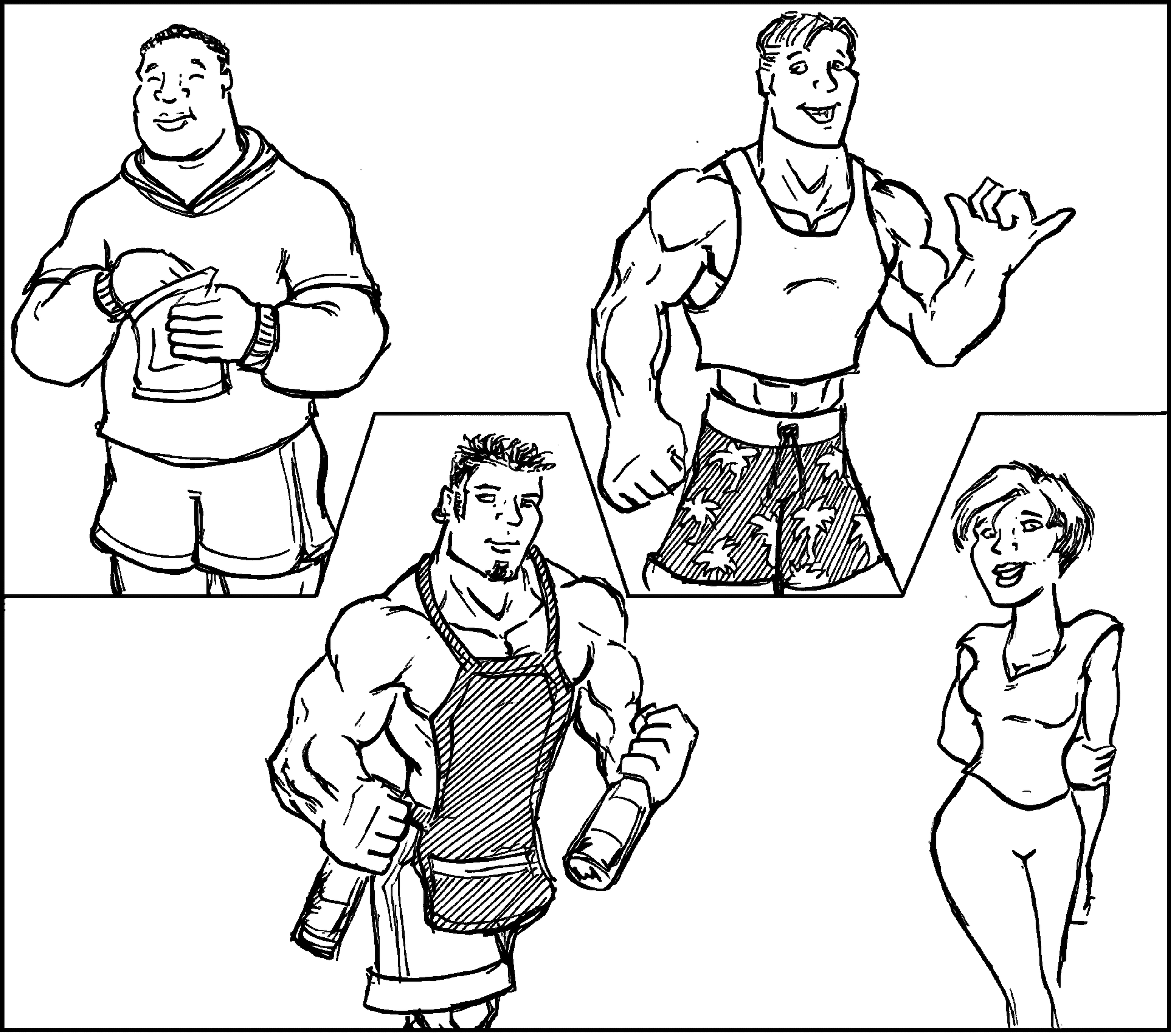
I THOUGHT THEY'D HIRED A NEW BOUNCER. GOTTA ADMIT YOU LOOK THE PART.

WELL, MOST REGULARS DON'T PUT SO MUCH EFFORT INTO LOOKING SO... UNAPPROACHABLE?

ACTUALLY...

SURPRISE ME.

TO BE CONTINUED JAN '08
SEE WWW.CWCOMICS.COM FOR UPDATES!



NOW THANKING

FUNNY MOVIE

OH, CRAP NOT AGAIN!

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NOW PLAYING

ONE OF HEARTS

DEAL.

SEPTEMBER

I.S.O.: a common acronym of classified and personal ads; an abbreviation for "In Search Of."

iso-: prefix meaning "equal", "uniform". Thus, not different from anyone else.

i.s.o.: a comic about a repressed youth in search of a life equal to everyone else.